

## **Robert Waples II**

I was a member of the 115th Infantry, Maryland National Guard, when I was hit by a roadside bomb blast (IED) on June 30, 2005, during an ambush. I received nerve damage to the right side of my head and traumatic brain injury which I have been trying to deal with ever since. I am married with three children and was a police officer in my civilian employment for 11 years, prior to being hurt. Due to my injuries, I was forced to resign from my position in Law Enforcement. My wife was my saving grace when I came home. She quit her job to help take care of me and my family. I was lucky enough to get hired through the Wounded Warrior Program for Department of Defense and now work as a Weapons Engineer in Northern New Jersey.

I have been deployed with the 20th Special Forces Group (Airborne) to Afghanistan and the 115th Infantry to Iraq. Some of my awards include the Combat Infantry Badge, Purple Heart, GWOT Expeditionary Medal, GWOT Service Medal, etc.